

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PM-05
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12
NEA-10 USIE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 /129 W
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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6254

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UN, ECOSOC, EGEN, EINV
SUBJECT: 63RD ECOSOC - ILLICIT PAYMENTS

REF: GENEVA 6057

1. RESULTS OF US POLL OF OTHER DELS REGARDING US PROPOSAL, AS
PROVIDED REFTEL, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. LATIN AMERICA

-- BRAZIL WILL SUPPORT PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE (PC) IN 1979
WITH PREPARATORY COMMITTEE; THEY HAVE NOT MENTIONED CODE OF CON-
DUCT ON TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY.

-- ARGENTINA WILL SUPPORT PC, WITH QUESTION ABOUT 1978 DATE, ON
UNDERSTANDING THAT IT WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH OR TAKE PRECEDENCE
OVER CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TNCs. PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS ISSUE
IS SANCHEZ MUNOZ WHO HAS SERVED CAPABLY AND IMPARTIALLY AS
CHAIRMAN OF UNCTAD GROUP OF EXPERTS ON RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS
PRACTICES AND COULD BE BIG HELP WITHIN G-77 BUT WILL ALSO BE BUSY
WITH TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY NEXT WEEK.

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-- COLOMBIA SUPPORTS US RESOLUTION BUT EXPRESSES PRIVATE DOUBT
ABOUT DATE.
-- VENEZUELA DEL HAS CABLED CARACAS FOR INSTRUCTIONS.
-- MEXICO HAS EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS US PROPOSAL WITH
USDEL BUT NOW INSISTS ON TYING CODE OF CONDUCT AND ILLICIT PAY-
MENTS AGREEMENT TOGETHER "VERY TIGHTLY".

-- BOLIVIAN DEL INDICATED GENERAL APPROVAL AND WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS DETAILS EARLY THIS WEEK.

B. AFRICA

-- NIGERIAN AND UGANDA DELS ACCEPT US ASSURANCE THAT SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUE CAN GO TO PC WITHOUT COMMITMENT TO SUBSTANCE AND ON UNDERSTANDING THAT US WANTS A SEPARATE AGREEMENT ON BRIBERY. HOWEVER, THEY (ABUAH AND ACEMAH) ARE VAGUE AND NONCOMMITTAL ON US RESOLUTION.

-- SUDAN HAS NOT YET RESPONDED.

-- TOGO NOT INSTRUCTED BUT WILL PROBABLY FOLLOW THE G-77 LINE.

C. ARABS

-- SYRIA SUPPORTS US PROPOSAL, BUT IS TOTALLY UNFAMILIAR WITH ISSUE AND THREATENS TO INTRODUCE A NEW ISSUE OF "ESPIONAGE" (NOT DEFINED AS YET) INTO THE DEBATE.

-- ALGERIA OPPOSES US PROPOSAL AND IS SUGGESTING ECOSOC FORWARD WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATION TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY (WE NOTE THAT ECOSOC RES. 2041 PARA 4 PROVIDES FOR ECOSOC, "IF IT SO DECIDES, TO TRANSMIT ITS CONCRETE RECOMMENDATION OR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR FINAL ACTION.").

-- TUNISIA: NON-COMMITTAL.

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D. ASIA

-- IRAN SUPPORTS US PROPOSAL AND HAS PROMISED TO WORK ON ALGERIA AND OTHERS BILATERALLY AND TO RAISE ISSUE AT NEXT G-77 MEETING (HOPEFULLY MONDAY, JULY 25).

-- AFGHANISTAN INDICATES IT APPROVES GENERAL IDEA OF US PROPOSAL AND WILL GIVE US MORE SPECIFIC RESPONSE EARLY THIS WEEK.

-- BANGLADESH SAME AS AFGHANISTAN.

3. WEOS

-- EC-9 DECIDED FRIDAY TENTATIVELY TO OPPOSE AS A GROUP COMMITMENT TO PC UNTIL MORE SUBSTANTIVE PREPARATION HAS BEEN MADE. COUNTRIES WHICH HAD INDICATED STRONG OPPOSITION TO PC (FRANCE AND ITALY) CARRIED THE DAY OVER THOSE WILLING TO SUPPORT IT (DENMARK, NETHERLANDS AND BELGIUM), WITH UK ABSENT AND FRG NONCOMMITTAL.

-- JAPAN CAN SUPPORT PC "AS SOON AS POSSIBLE" BUT MIGHT ACCEPT 1979.

-- CANADA PROBABLY WILL SUPPORT BUT LAST WEEK DID NOT HAVE FINAL INSTRUCTIONS.

-- AUSTRIAN DEL SAID US PROPOSAL SHOULD PRESENT NO PROBLEM FOR THEM BUT HAD NOT RECEIVED FINAL INSTRUCTIONS.

-- SWEDEN HAS NO PROBLEM WITH PC BUT IS RELUCTANT TO FIX DATE UNTIL FURTHER PREPARATORY WORK IS DONE.

-- FINLAND DEL IS UNFAMILIAR WITH ISSUE AND NONCOMMITTAL.

-- NORWAY HAS NO PROBLEM WITH PC BUT QUESTIONS DATE AND WOULD LIKE CONSIDERATION OF MORE EFFECTIVE PREPARATORY PROCEDURES (PREPARATORY COMMITTEE, PROVISION FOR GOVERNMENT COMMENT ON DRAFT AGREEMENT.)

2. COMMENT: A STRONG ECOSOC DECISION WILL REQUIRE STRONG G-77
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SUPPORT, WHICH IS ENDANGERED BY ALGERIAN OPPOSITION AND MEXICAN RELUCTANCE. IRAN WILL MAKE STRONG ATTEMPT TO SELL US PROPOSAL BUT THINKS ALGERIA COULD CONVINCE MANY G-77DELS THAT ILLICIT PAYMENTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ALONG WITH OTHER ISSUES (E.G. CIEC) AS A PACKAGE BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY (THIS IS A STANDARD G-77 POSITION). IN THAT CASE, G-77 WOULD AT LEAST BE DIVIDED. USDEL WILL CONTINUE STRONG LOBBYING EFFORTS IN HOPE OF SOLICITING ACTIVE SUPPORT WITHIN G-77, ESPECIALLY FROM SOME LATIN AMERICANS AND SYRIANS.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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